



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

9 November 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: November 6, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from southern Pinellas to central Collier County. Today, Friday and Sunday patchy low impacts are possible in southern Pinellas and southern Charlotte Counties; with patchy very low impacts possible in Manatee, Sarasota and northern Lee Counties. On Saturday, patchy moderate impacts are possible in southern Pinellas and southern Charlotte Counties; with patchy low impacts possible in Manatee, Sarasota and northern Lee Counties. No impacts are expected in northern Charlotte County and from southern Lee to central Collier County today through Sunday.

Analysis

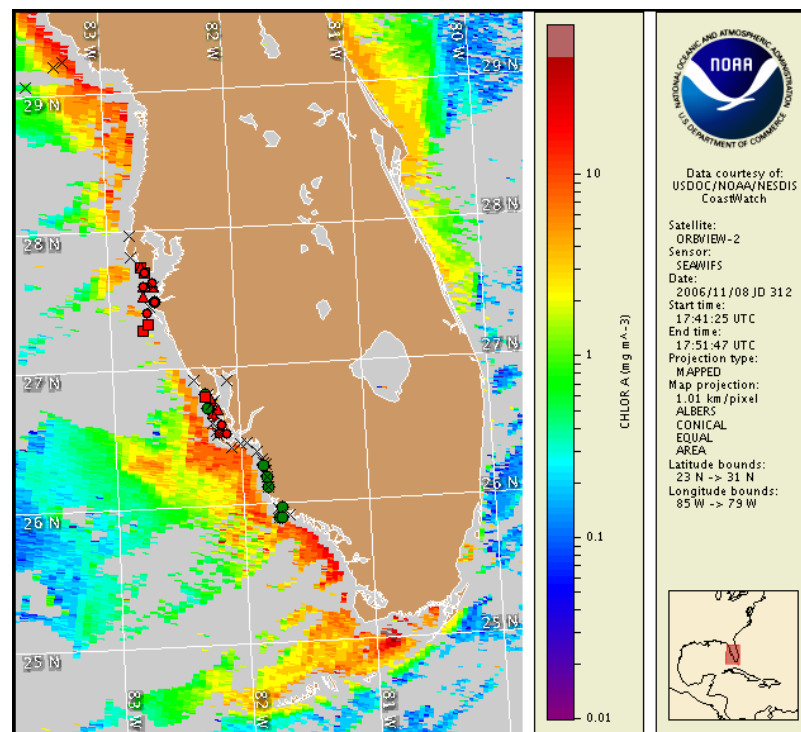
A harmful algal bloom persists from southern Pinellas to central Collier County. FWRI samples from early this week identified an increase in *K. brevis* concentrations at Gasparilla Fishing Pier in Charlotte County (high, 11/7) and Palma Sola Causeway in Manatee County (low, 11/7). Sampling efforts confirm the bloom to be mixed alongshore Pinellas and Collier Counties. Although, recent satellite imagery is predominantly obscured by clouds in the northern portion of the bloom, chlorophyll levels continue to be elevated ($6\text{--}14\mu\text{g/L}$) alongshore SW Florida from southern Sarasota to central Collier County. In northern to central Collier County a vertical band of elevated chlorophyll is visible approximately 7-9nm offshore according to recent satellite imagery (11/8). Chlorophyll levels are also elevated (up to $6\mu\text{g/L}$) in a distinct patch approximate 48nm offshore southern Lee and northern Collier Counties, with a central location at $26^{\circ}18.9'\text{N}$ $82^{\circ}44'\text{W}$. Sampling is recommended in both of these offshore regions of Lee and Collier County. According to satellite imagery and a wind transport model, the bloom has likely maintained its location and extent over the past few days.

Impacts should be minimal through Monday, with greater impacts expected on Saturday afternoon as winds shift onshore. Mild and variable winds will reduce the potential for *K. brevis* intensification and transport through the weekend.

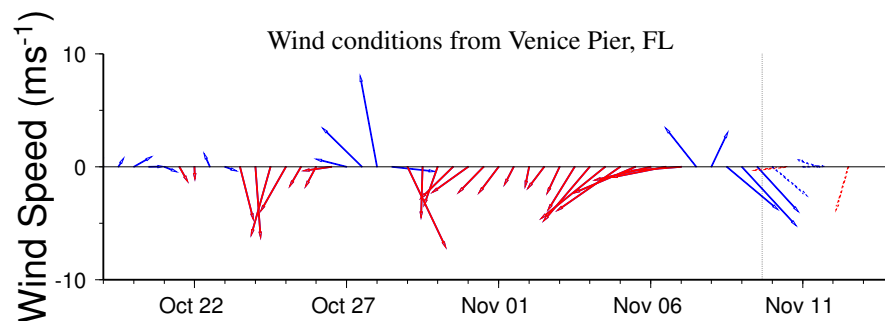
~Fisher, Urizar

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.

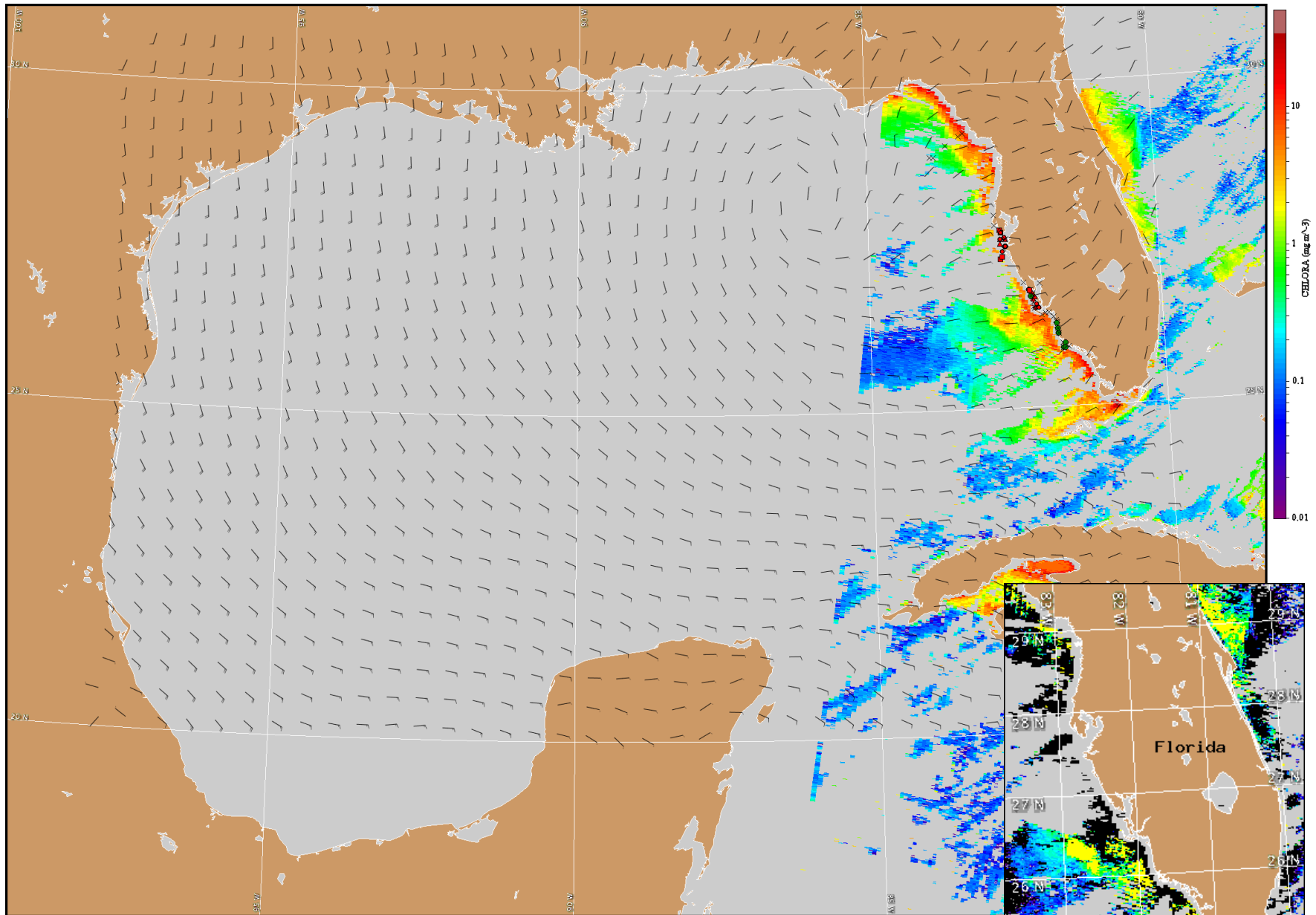


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration categories and corresponding cell count values from Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. For a key to the cell concentration descriptions, visit <http://research.myfwc.com>. Cell concentration sampling data from October 30-November 7 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Northerly winds today (10kts, 5m/s) becoming northeasterly tonight. Southeasterly winds Friday (5kts, 3m/s) becoming northeasterly Saturday morning and northwesterly Saturday afternoon. Easterly winds Sunday (10kts), southeasterly winds Monday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for November 10, 2006 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from October 30-November 7 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Clearwater Beach, FL

